

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 21, line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

The first preferred embodiment shows a domed elastomeric keypad having a direct contact mechanism. By domed elastomeric, the present application means to describe a keypad 12 wherein the pad structure 14 and the spring structure 17 are formed of a single elastic material into a domed-like structure. More particular to this preferred embodiment, the pad structure 14 and the spring structure 17, and the contact pill structure 15 are all formed of a conductive loaded resin-based material according to the present invention. A base resin material, such as:

_____ that exhibits the necessary elastomeric characteristics for the spring structure 17 is selected. A conductive loaded resin-based material is then formed by homogeneous mixing of micron conductive fibers and/or micron conductive powders as described in the present invention. This conductive loaded resin-based material is molded to form the combined pad structure 14 and spring structure 17, and contact pill structure 15 of the keypad 12.